PATENT APPLN. NO. 09/995,863
AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. \$1.312

PATENT

REMARKS

Claim 10 has been amended to delete the first occurrence of the recitation "forming gaps in the thin film in a manner to extend in its thickness direction from valleys of the irregularities of the thin film surface when the thin film is expanded and shrunk due to a charge/discharge reaction." This recitation is redundant and confusing since the same limitation is recited as the last step in claim 10.

In the event that this paper is not considered to be timely filed, applicants hereby petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fee for any such extension may be charged to our Deposit Account No. 111833.

In the event any additional fees are required, please also charge our Deposit Account No. 111833.

Respectfully submitted,

KUBOVCIK & KWBOVCIK

Ronald J. Kubovcik Reg. No. 25,401

Atty. Case No. MAM-007 The Farragut Building Suite 710 900 17th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20006

Tel: 202-887-9023 Fax: 202-887-9093

RJK/cfm